ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

Twenty-Fifth Anniversary

OF THE

SHELBY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

UNION CHURCH,

SHELBY COUNTY, ALABAMA,

September 16th and 18th, 1876.

OFFICERS:

REV. E. B. TEAGUE, D. D.,.....MODERATOR
C. W. O'HARA, ...SECRETARY

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.:
WILLIS AND CHAS. ROBERTS, JOB PRINTERS.
1876.

MINUTES

OF THE

Twenty-Fifth Anniversary

OF THE

Shelby Missionary Baptist Association.

The Association convened with Union church, Shelby county, Alabama, on Saturday, the 16th day of September, 1876.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Brother C. W. O'Hara, from the 12th verse of the 15th chapter of our Lord's Gospel by St. John.

After a short intermission the delegates assembled in the church and were called to order by Rev. T. P. Holcomb, former Moderator. Prayer was offered by Rev. J. H. R. Carden.

Brethren H. W. Bowers and J. H. R. Carden were appointed to read. The letters from the churches were called for, received, read and the names of the delegates enrolled. (See Table.)

Brethren H. W. Bowers and Nathaniel Thomas were appointed tellers, who after having received the vote, reported Rev. E. B. Teague, D. D., elected Moderator; C. W. O'Hara, Secretary.

Appointed Committees:

On Devotion.—R. Owen from the 1st District, Nathaniel Thomas from the 2d District, and the Deacons of Union church.

On Documents.—H. W. Bowers, T. P. Holcomb, J. H. R. Carden and J. R. Ray.

On Sabbath Schools.—Robert Seal, Colonel Fancher and Nathaniel Thomas.

On Finance.—H. W. Bowers, Nathaniel Thomas and G. W. Weldon.

Opened a door for the reception of churches.

A petitionary letter was presented by Brethren J. C. McElroy and Henry Turner, as delegates from Belleview church. The letter, the constitution, abstract of principles and rules of decorum, being read, and the church found to be orthodox, was received—the Moderator extending to the delegates the right hand of fellowship.

Appointed a Committee on Missions, viz: T. P. Holcomb, J. H. R. Carden and J. C. McElroy.

Invited visiting ministers to seats.

Appointed the next session of this body to be held with Belleview church, on the A. & C. R. R., Jefferson county, Alabama, on Saturday before the 3d Sabbath in September, 1877.

On motion, Union (Shelby) and Belleview churches were added to the 1st District.

The Committee on Devotion reported that Brother C. W. O'Hara would preach at night.

Prayer was offered by Brother R. Owen, sr., after which the Association adjourned until Monday morning, 9 o'clock.

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SUNDAY, Sept. 17, 1876.

The services of the day were conducted as prescribed by the Committee on Devotion. Prayer meeting at 10 o'clock, conducted by Brother Thos. Mills. Preaching at 11, by Rev. E. B. Teague, D. D., from the 38th verse of the 6th chapter of St. Luke. Thirty minutes past 2, an address by Rev. E. B. Teague, D. D., 1st: in behalf of the Domestic and Indian Mission Board; 2d: in behalf of the Theological Seminary. At 3, a brief recitation of lesson by the Sabbath School, after which there was a short address delivered by Brother C. W. O'Hara, in the interest of Sabbath Schools. At night preaching by Rev. J. H. R. Carden, from Hebrews, 3d ch., 7th and 8th verses. These services were attended by large and attentive congregations.

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MONDAY, Sept. 18.

Association met. Prayer by the Moderator. Called the roll and noted absentees.

On motion, the Constitution, Abstract of Principles and Rules of Decorum, were read.

Called for the report on Sabbath Schools, which was received and after some amendment was adopted, and the committee discharged. (See Appendix A.)

Called for the report on Missions, which was received, and, after some discussion, was, on motion of Brother J. C. McElroy, laid on the table; and the following resolution offered by Brother C. W. O'Hara, was adopted:

Resolved, That we recommend that the subject of Missions be presented to the churches, by their pastors, and that monthly collections be taken up for the support of missions, in the churches, during the months of November, December, January and February, and at any other time the churches may think proper, and also that collections be taken up on the Sabbath at each Association.

Called for correspondence, when minutes from the Mud Creek Association were laid on the table.

Returned correspondence:

To the Mud Creek: H. W. Bowers, Elders Peter Smith, Thos. Mills; H. W. Bowers to write.

To the Mulberry: Thornton Faucher, J. L. Peters; J. L. Peters to write.

To the Cahaba Valley: Elders J. H. R. Carden, E. B. Teague and C. W. O'Hara: J. H. R. Carden to write.

Appointed delegates to the State Convention, to-wit: Elders E. B. Teague, T. P. Holcomb, J. H. R. Carden and C. W. O'Hara, and J. C. McElroy, J. H. Baker, Wm. M. McMath and Nathaniel Thomas.

Called for the report on Documents, which was received, and after some amendment, was adopted, and the committee discharged. (See Appendix B.)

Appointed Brother J. H. R. Carden to preach the Introductory Sermon at our next session; E. B. Teague alternate.

On motion, and after prayer by Brother T. P. Holcomb, adjourned for 30 minutes.

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AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association met. Prayer was offered by Brother McElroy. Called for the report on Finance, which was received and adopted, and the committee discharged. (See Appendix C.)

Directed that the Secretary superintend the printing of the minutes, reserve 30 copies for correspondence, and transcribe the present minutes in the Association Book; and that he receive $9.45 for his services.

Resolved, That we tender our thanks to the brethren and sisters of Union church—to those of other denominations, and surrounding community, for their hospitality manifested to us during the sitting of this body.

After singing a hymn, while the delegates extended to each other and the congregation the parting hand, and prayer by Elder T. P. Holcomb, the Association adjourned to meet at the time and place designated.

E. B. TEAGUE, Moderator.

C. W. O'HARA, Secretary.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS. (APPENDIX A.)

We, your committee, beg leave to report, we are gratified to learn, through the letters sent up to the Association, that there is a greater interest taken by some of the churches than has been heretofore. It appears that some of the churches have entered wholly into the work. Even some of the churches that were unable to secure regular preaching have kept up regular Sunday Schools. Most assuredly God will bless these efforts. Among the multitude of means which God has blessed us with that we may train up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, doubtless this has been, and will be, one of the most effectual. While this is true, we are grieved that some of our churches manifest so little interest in this great work.

We would recommend that the churches enter into this work with redoubled energies—that there be Sunday Schools established in every church, and that in every community, where it is possible, that Baptists gather the the youths of our country together on the Sabbath and teach them the ways of salvation, as it is through Jesus. All of which is respectfully submitted.

ROBERT SEAL, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS. (APPENDIX B.)

We, your committee, have examined all documents coming into our hands, and find the following facts. That most of our churches seem to be in a cold and declining State. Full statistics only show an increase of 10 in the entire Association. We note the reception of a new church (Belleview) in our body. Six Mile church asks for a letter of dismission to join Mulberry Association, which we recommend to be granted. We would call attention to our denominational papers, the "Alabama Baptist," our State paper, and

"The Baptist," both of which we deem worthy of the support of all Baptists. Respectfully submitted,

H. W. BOWERS, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE. (APPENDIX C.)

We, your committee, report:

Amount sent up for Minutes	$15 15
" " " Associational Purposes	9 30
Total	$24 45

The District meeting for the 1st District will be held with Dogwood Grove church, on Saturday before the 2d Sabbath in July, 1877. The District meeting for the 2d District will be held with Bethesda church, on Saturday before 1st Sabbath in August, 1877.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	POST OFFICE.	NAMES OF DELEGATES. Ordained Ministers marked 1 Absentees marked 2	Sab. of Preaching	Baptized	R'd by Letter	Restored	D'd by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	Total	Minute Fund
FIRST DISTRICT.												
Dogwood Grove	J G Sayers	Montevallo	Thos Mills,1 Jas Holsonback, Elias Walker	2	1	3	1	17	1		96	1 00
Enon			Not Represented.								56	
Montevallo	E B Teague	"	R Nolen,2 Thos B Dison,1 2 J H Harris,2	3	1	6		7		1	35	2 50
New Antioch			Not Represented								56	1 00
Six Mile	J M Langston	Six Mile	R Owen, D C Ward,2 W E Fancher,2	1				1	1	1	47	2 40
Union, Bibb		Day's Mill	Colonel Fancher, without letter			1		2			16	50
Union, Shelby		Siluria	H W Bowers, B L Douglas, Wm Lucus			1		10		2	22	3 10
Bellview	Peter Smith	Tannehill	J C McElroy, Henry Turner.	2							26	1 00
SECONDDISTRICT								3				
Beaver Creek		Columbiana	R Seal, James Gould,2 James Crawford					3			26	1 00
Bethesda	C W O'Hara	Wilsonville	W W Armstrong,1 2, C W O'Hara,1 J R Ray, J C Lyon1.	3	2	6	1	4			94	3 00
Columbiana	E B Teague	Columbiana	E B Teague,1 Jared Morgan,2	2		3		1		1	15	25
Hopewell	W W Armstrong	"	N J Norris,1 2, Wesley Armstrong,2 B M H Armstrong	4	10	11	1	10			43	2 00
Mt. Calvary	"	"	Nathaniel Thomas, C I Mooney, D W Evans	2	5	4	3	5	7		48	2 00
Liberty	T P Holcomb	"	T P Holcomb,1 J H R Carden,1 G W Weldon, S P Gilbert.		18	4		1	2	1	108	4 25
Salem	"	"	S M Robinson, Luther Kindrick	1		2		1	4		14	1 25

☞The previous total is given of the Churches not represented. Bethel and Evergreen Church dissolved during the past associational year, therefore their names do not appear in the above list.